The Pacific

0th Year (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) APRIL, 1950 No. 4

AN JOSE HOWS THE WAY

At the corner of Third and San ntonio Streets in San Jose stands an cient church building which has rved its day. But that old edifice ouses a wide-awake minister and a llowship that abounds in energy and sion for the future. It is the familiar ittern of a church caught in the ansition zone of a rapidly growing ty. Shall they stay where they are, itch up the "ark," and stick it out r another 75 years? That might be a od idea if three other major denom- ations with downtown churches, not r away, were not planning to do this ry same thing.

First Church, San Jose, led by Rev. tephen C. Peabody, has been work- g at this problem for three years. he plan that they have worked out ay suggest a solution for other nurches in Northern California, faced ith the problem of depreciating roperty and a mobile membership. "survey committee" was appointed 1949 with 17 members. This group, consultation with Conference Ex- ension Director, Sidney H. Buckham, iscovered two suburban areas of rapid rowth near San Jose where new work ight be started: Alum Rock to the ast and the Kaiser Tract to the west. Applications were made to the Comity Commission of the Northern Califor- ia - Western Nevada Council of Churches for allocation in these areas. On March 31 these requests were granted, and now First Church will proceed to buy lots for future Congre- gational buildings in both areas. The purchase price of these properties will be provided from a church building fund which has been accumulating for several years. When the time is ripe, fellowship groups will be organized at Alum Rock and Kaiser Village, and national and state financial help will be requested. Some day the old prop- erty downtown will be sold and the money received will be divided be- tween the two projects. Thus, the splendid tradition of First Church will be continued, and the fruitful work of the past 75 years will be carried on by two Congregational youngsters. Emerson says: "The force of character is cumulative—all the foregone days of virtue work their health into this."

HAVE YOU USED THESE CENTENNIAL VISUAL AIDS YET?

Several churches in the Conference, which failed to use the Centennial visual aids in 1949, are booking the films and slides during 1950. Just to remind you that these are still avail- able, here they are:

"We Would Be Building"—color and sound picture.

"California's Golden Beginnings"—color and sound picture.

(Bookings made through Rev. Wil- liam W. Meyer, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley 4.)

"One Hundred Years of Congrega- tionalism" — slide lecture. (Booked through Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, 101 Tamalpais Road, Berkeley 8.)

PLEASANT HILL

"Gregory Gardens" is the name of the new subdivision, north of Walnut Creek, where we are about to begin our latest church extension project. It is located in the Pleasant Hill area of Contra Costa County. A sign is being erected on the church property, at the corner of Gregory Lane and Kahrs Avenue.

One of the biggest boosts that we have had for our church extension program was the purchase of a new house in Gregory Gardens by the Women's League of the First Congre- gational Church of Oakland. This house is to be used for a parsonage. The League used some of its invested funds and is borrowing the balance and will be receiving a modest rental so that, in reality, they are doing a great piece of missionary work and maintaining their invested funds. The house will be finished in June.

Along with this is a further bit of interesting news, and that is that Rev. Robert L. Carlson has accepted the call of the Conference Board of Directors to be the pastor; and he, with his at- tractive wife, will take possession of that parsonage not later than July 1. Mr. Carlson is a graduate of the Uni- versity of Oregon and Pacific School of Religion and has had two years of advanced study at Yale University, where he is now serving as Director for Congregational Students. He was ordained at Campbell in our own Con- ference, where he was a very success- ful pastor.

Some time ago, the Conference, from Centennial Funds, purchased the finest property in the area for the site of the new church. More than 500 new houses have been built to the north of the church site, and a thou- sand more are expected. In addition, there are many smaller groups of houses to the south, the west, and the east. The budget for the new project has been provided by the Conference from Centennial Funds and the Board of Home Missions. An effort is being made to secure a student to begin house-to-house calling in the area pre- ceding the arrival of Mr. Carlson.

LOVE HAS THE WIT TO WIN

We cannot restore the Russians to sanity except by recovering our own; we can overcome materialism only by renouncing it, and practicing brother- hood.

But to ask a nation like the United States at the peak of its wealth to be willing to become poor, or at least poorer, so that others may cease to be poor, or at the peak of its power to renounce its power, is to ask a miracle comparable to that of atomic fission. Human experience suggests that such a new order can come only if there comes into being first a fel- lowship of persons who in themselves and through their fellowship embody the new order and who become its completely committed witnesses to all the world.

The Communists have in their Inter- national such an instrument, and every day bears fresh and startling witness to its effectiveness on a world scale. Obviously an International of Love is needed, and this is what the Christian Church in principle is and in practice ought to be. —A. J. Muste.

LAYMEN'S LUNCH AT P. S. R.

Men of the Conference who attend- ed the three "Laymen's Schools of Churchmanship" recently have gone back to their local churches with en- thusiastic reports about Visitation Evangelism. This was the result of the leadership of Ira Black of New York, who inspired several of our churches to carry on such campaigns before summer sets in and their people disperse to the hills.

Ira Black suggested that the North- ern California Conference be prepared to help any local church with a visita- tion evangelism campaign. Rev. Sidney H. Buckham is prepared to do this and will be available for a few campaigns in the autumn. The visitation program requires four evenings, beginning with a Monday and ending on a Thursday. Lists of prospective church members and the lining up of visitation teams must be done by the pastor in ad- vance. The average increase in church membership in one of these visitation campaigns is 20%. If you want Con- ference help in your local church dur- ing September, October, and Novem- ber, please write to Mr. Buckham im- mediately. Local churches will be expected to entertain the campaign director during his stay in the com- munity.

SUMMARY OF CHURCH EXTENSION

Back in 1947 our Conference, stag- gered by the continuing increase in population on the Pacific Coast, took a deep breath and plunged into a program of church extension. We sud- denly realized that the postwar boom was no passing mirage, but rather a relentless cascade of people pouring over the Sierras into our valleys, with the promise of continuing for another quarter century. We scanned our field, probed our financial resources, and decided to do something about it.

Our first step was to add an exten- sion worker to the Conference staff. Then we proceeded to seek likely lo- cations for new work, and to study existing churches where greater service ought to be rendered because of rapid population growth. We saw that it would take money to do the job, and so the Centennial campaign was launched in 1949. All the time we hammered at the doors of the Church Building Society in Manhattan, and screamed for help from the Church Extension Division in Gotham. We also encouraged local churches (which could afford to do so) to increase their facilities or move to better locations, or both.

Now it is time to take inventory of this prodigious effort in church exten- sion, shared by our state Conference, national Boards, and local Churches, in the past three years.

Additions and improvements to church plants have been made at Berkeley, First; Berkeley, North; An- gels Camp; Fresno, Japanese; Loomis; Murphys; Oroville; Petaluma; Pitts- burg; Redwood City; Rio Vista; San Mateo; Sebastopol; Soquel; Weaver- ville; and Tulare. Completely new buildings have been built at Berkeley, Arlington; Fresno, First; Hayward; Lodi, Ebenezer; Orinda; Sacramento, Sierra-Arden; San Carlos; and San Lorenzo.

And, brother, that ain't all! We have two new stars in our crown in the addition to our Conference of Sacramento, Oak Park, and LaSelva Beach. Already in operation but not yet formally organized are Modesto, Forest Hill, and Mira Vista — with Pleasant Hill just over the horizon. Two of our older churches have taken a new lease on life, launched out on the deep, bought property in fast- growing suburbs, and will soon be proudly housed in brand new build- ings—Ocean View and Santa Rosa. Redwood City, San Jose, and Palo Alto have requested new allocations from the Comity Commission, and the folks at Eureka are looking around for a more promising site. Plymouth, Oakland, is studying its field and look- ing for greater opportunities of ser- vice in the future. San Mateo, Orin- da, Pittsburg, and San Leandro are getting ready for plant expansion.

"Church Extension" is a broad term, and this is it!

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The Dirt Is Flying At Camp Cazadero

Cazadero in Springtime, with its golden daffodils and green meadows and tall trees, is being enjoyed by an increasing number of its 26,000 owners on week-end retreats.

As these lines are written, we have just finished our second Sunday morning worship service on Vesper Point with its inspiring view of Mohrhardt Ridge and the distant hills and with the sound of birdsongs and waterfall mingling in our ears. The earlier service, at 6:30 a. m., was at the top of Pilgrim Rock, as we greeted the warm dawning sun with song and prayer.

Who could go back to the busy lowlands from this Cazadero without feeling closer to God and bound everlastingly in high Christian fellowship?

POOL PROGRESS

Most Cazadero visitors this spring, including groups of laymen recruited for the purpose, are having a hand in building the new swimming pool. As PACIFIC goes to press, the digging is just being completed and forms for concrete are beginning to go in place with drain tile and the main drain already in place at the bottom.

The new Cazadero pool, made possible through the Centennial Fund, will actually represent a pool worth well over $10,000, but with volunteer labor and donated materials and careful planning by the Commission, it is hoped to keep the cost to $7,000 for the 25x60-foot structure.

Again the call goes out for men who will give one or two week-ends helping to build forms, install pipe fittings, and mix concrete, so we can meet the June 10 camp opening date. Write Wim Meyer, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley 4, for details and dates.

SELECTING DELEGATES

The Strategy Committee and the Conference Board of Directors strongly recommend to the churches that delegates for the Annual Meeting of the Conference be selected carefully and appointed early and that the church budgets provide an item for travel expense of their delegates. Too often delegates have been "picked up" at the last moment without any preparation and on their return have not been called upon to make any report to the church.

Our Score At the End of The First Quarter

	Jan. 11 to Mar. 31,'49	Jan. 11 to Mar. 31,'50
Alameda	$ 273.01	338.34
Alturas	25.00	40.68
Angels Camp	44.85	43.41
Antioch	82.74	.....
Auburn	75.00	25.00
Benicia	.....	26.00
Berkeley, Arlington	73.43	282.41
Chinese	.....	25.07
First	3,282.51	3,710.93
North	361.10	487.55
Northbrae	.....	400.00
South	197.24	156.62
Campbell	72.19	200.00
Cedarville	5.60	32.10
Cloverdale	72.25	31.38
Cotati	62.50	48.51
Crockett	32.03	.....
Dinuba	2.00	.....
Eagleville	7.36	13.38
Elk Grove	.....	58.66
Etna	26.53	20.17
Eureka	248.38	450.58
Fairfax	75.00	40.80
Ferndale	183.40	129.47
Fowler	50.00	.....
Fresno, First	612.50	1,421.85
Glen Ellen	34.23	99.50
Guerneville	.....	126.84
Hayward	537.50	583.38
Kenwood	57.70	33.67
Lodi, Ebenezer	50.00	96.52
Lodi, First	734.50	708.25
Loleta	7.82	.....
Martinez	228.90	277.69
Modesto	52.28	28.14
Murphys	.....	5.00
Niles	100.00	24.30
Oakland, Bethany Arm	71.57	.....
First	1,747.83	1,411.27
Fruitvale	59.41	.....
Japanese	30.00	.....
New Pilgrim	5.47	152.90
Plymouth	771.31	226.73
Orinda	560.28	342.83
Oroville	154.12	250.00
Pacific Grove	.....	35.48
Palo Alto	1,448.14	1,107.50
Paradise	150.00	200.60
Penngrove	.....	18.90
Pescadero	.....	26.45
Petaluma	525.00	500.00
Pittsburg	99.95	183.46
Port Chicago	30.30	.....
Porterville	754.00	700.00
Redwood City	425.54	674.94
Rio Vista	50.00	.....
Ripon	168.75	93.82
Sacramento, Pioneer	.....	888.00
Sierra-Arden	.....	37.25
Salida	22.58	3.75
San Carlos	320.00	445.00
San Francisco		
Bethany Mis Pk	55.50	68.15
Calvary Armen.	30.00	.....
Chinese	.....	26.50
First	22.25	718.22
Ocean View	50.00	50.00
Park Presidio	217.27	253.00
San Jose	315.00	560.00
San Leandro	25.30	48.50
San Lorenzo	.....	17.69
San Mateo	750.00	1,600.00
San Rafael	14.70	52.15
Santa Cruz	654.87	547.64
Santa Rosa	59.07	148.23
Saratoga	257.34	268.92
Sebastopol	110.28	219.02
Sonoma	.....	59.07
Soquel	25.82	.....
Stockton	297.85	275.05
Suisun	.....	40.00
Sunnyvale	198.06	42.25
Sunol	.....	62.00
Tulare	380.00	681.00
Weaverville	50.00	.....
Woodside	29.00	.....
Reno, Nevada	228.13	296.70
Miscellaneous	486.25	609.94
	$19,318.49	$23,909.11

PRES. BRIDGES RESIGNS

President Ronald Bridges, who came to Berkeley in 1945, has announced his resignation from the presidency because of precarious health. Dr. Bridges has given outstanding leadership to PSR and has also strengthened our Congregational work in California in many ways. He has been in great demand as a speaker at our conferences and in local churches. He will be greatly missed on the Pacific Coast, but we hope that he may be coming to California often in the future.

Dr. Bridges' resignation takes effect in June of this year. He will move with his family to Maine and will continue his splendid radio program, "Religion in the News."

THE HILLTOP CHURCH GROWS

On Sunday morning, March 12, we began services of worship at the Richmond YMCA. That morning we had 56 in attendance at the service, plus 22 children and 2 adults in the nursery. Then there is our Sunday School meeting in several different homes. This month we began our fifth class, a nursery class for 3-year-olds at the Phelps home. The average attendance in Sunday School this month has been 49. Plans for two additional classes are under way. Not only do we have a Sunday School, but we believe that our corps of teachers is a superior group. They have shown very remarkable enthusiasm and loyalty, and they have worked hard under trying and inadequate circumstances.

The YMCA building is quite adequate as to size, and is a very great help to us in our program of worship and recreation. Without it we would be in a much more difficult plight. But it is far from the ideal arrangement, being approximately 3 miles from the western edge of our territory. To teach a class of youngsters and then get to the worship service held several miles away is a task realized only by those who have tried it. And to administer 5 classes scattered in 5 homes all over the hillside now has become the work of the superintendent, for the minister simply can't continue doing it.

A "fun-nite" was held at the "Y" on the evening of March 25, with an attendance of 72. After a delicious supper, covered dish smorgasbord style, there was a period of fellowship singing, and then under the leadership of the Rev. W. W. Meyer, we folk-danced. It was a very happy evening.

The preliminary plans for our church building are now in the hands of the Inter-denominational Bureau of Architecture, and we are awaiting their return with suggestions for improvement. We believe that they sufficiently represent what we really need in the way of a building, to give the Congregational Church Building Society some reasonable index to our needs. We desperately need our first unit, and judging by the program which we now have under way, we can hardly do with less than the amount of area called for in the plans for the first unit, approximately 5,000 square feet.

We feel that we are making progress. We have, as of the date of this report, a total of 81 people who have definitely indicated their desire to be members of our Mira Vista Church. They will be received into membership on Easter morning. Very shortly thereafter it will be necessary to call a meeting for the purpose of church organization and election of officers.

—Gifford M. Webster

LA SELVA BEACH RECOGNITION ON APRIL 23

The new LaSelva Beach Community Church will be examined and welcomed into the Santa Clara Association on Sunday, April 23. The special meeting will begin at 3:30 p. m. at the LaSelva Beach Community Hall. The examination will be conducted by Rev. Weldon Batty, Moderator of the Association. A 75-cent buffet supper will be served at 6:00 p. m., followed by a recognition service, with sermon by Superintendent Harley H. Gill. The children of delegates attending this meeting will have supervised play on the beach.

The acting minister in this new project is Rev. E. L. Spaulding, a resident in the tract. Visitors are cordially invited to attend from all of the 13 churches of this Santa Clara Association. LaSelva Beach is 12 miles south of Santa Cruz, on a side road leading west from the main highway.

LAYMEN AT SANTA CRUZ

The Laymen's Fellowship will be featured at the annual meeting of the Conference in Santa Cruz on Sunday, May 28. The men of our churches are invited to gas up the Buick, load the family aboard, and head for the beach. But they are requested to pull up at the door of the First Congregational Church at 11 a. m. to hear Ruth Seabury preach, and to be inspired by the singing of the Oak Park choir.

After church the laymen will assemble for lunch to enjoy an address by Rev. Glenn A. Rowles of the Southern California Conference on the general theme, "South of Tehachapi." Then they will join with their wives in a Laymen's Forum (with no preachers permitted to speak) to discuss ways and means of strengthening the work of the local church, under the subject: "More Power to You." There will be a presiding layman, plus two men and two women leading the discussion, which will have four subtopics. This is going to be a great day in Santa Cruz, so put it down on your calendar now—May 28.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

CLOVERDALE—A group of min-rs in the Redwood Empire Associ-on shared in a happy service of ognition for the pastor, Mr. Charles Mundell, on Sunday evening, rch 19. Rev. Frank E. Carlson of erneville was moderator. Rev. W. Haselden, former minister, offered invocation, and Mr. William E. elch of Santa Rosa read the scrip-e. Supt. Harley H. Gill gave the arge to the church, and Mr. Richard ah of Cloverdale responded. Rev. erbert C. Gans of Petaluma gave charge to the minister, to which Mundell replied. Rev. Raymond W. Keeble of Sebastopol extended right hand of fellowship, and Mr. alter Vernon of Cotati offered the ayer of recognition. The Pilgrim llowship choir furnished music. here is every evidence that the new storal relationship is proving happy d fruitful.

OAKLAND, NEW PILGRIM—he young people held a smorgasbord nner in order to raise money for eir Pilgrim Fellowship pledge. Im-rovements are being made on the urch building, and a waffle feed llowed by the showing of a motion cture was held recently to raise nds for this project. Rev. George indsay is pastor.

FERNDALE—The average Sunday tendance in this federated church is 0, with a choir of 30 voices. A Men's ellowship was organized recently with 1 attending the first meeting. The astor is Rev. Robert W. Lewis.

ALTURAS — Rev. Rowland H. Dow has accepted the call of the church to begin work June first. Since this is a federated Baptist and Congregational church, Mr. Dow, who is a Baptist, has been chosen to succeed Rev. William Moll Case, who has done such outstanding work for the past few years. Mr. Dow is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and of the Berkeley Baptist Divinity School. He served in the U. S. Marines for about seven years. He has been pastor of the Baptist Church of Livermore for about two years, and prior to that edited the Baptist state paper. He is well adapted for youth work and will give strong leadership to Modoc County and promises hearty cooperation with both fellowships.

BERKELEY, ARLINGTON—During Lent, there was an early morning service at 7:30 and an evening vesper at 7:30 in addition to the regular services at 9:10 and 11 each Sunday. The church is trying out different organs to see which will be most suitable for the building. The Women's Association visited the Pacific School of Religion on March 24 and was conducted on a tour through the Palestinian Institute by Mr. Melvin Swartz. Rev. J. Hood Snavely is pastor.

LODI—The pastor, Rev. Amos R. Boone, has been preaching a series of Lenten sermons on "Meet the Master." The Swiss bell ringers were enthusiastically received at a recent service. The offering for "One Great Hour of Sharing" was $93.40.

FAIRFAX—This quotation appears on a printed statement which has recently been distributed by this church: "We think our healthy, young church has the ability and spirit to achieve high Christian goals. Recent successes point that way. Our average attendance has doubled in two years. We have a newly redecorated church with a new communion table and one of the finest electronic organs available. A new chapel is in our dreams, but our present church is clean and adequate—and what's more, it's paid for." Rev. James W. Montgomery is the minister.

FRESNO, FIRST—The average attendance at the morning services in this church has reached a high level of 192 at 9:30 a. m. and 290 at 11 o'clock since they have moved to the new building. The enrollment of the Sunday School has been closed because of crowded facilities. Sixty-one new members were taken into the church at a special service on Maundy Thursday. Rev. John Gregg is pastor.

OAKLAND, FIRST—Dr. Clarence Reidenbach, minister of this church, gave the address for the Devotional Life Lenten Service preceding the meeting of the Young Matrons' Circle. The purpose of this meeting was to make it possible for the young women to become acquainted. A salad luncheon was served and a special talk given by Miss Mae Baudin on "Religious Education in the Home."

MARTINEZ—Rev. W. W. Meyer spoke at the "Fellowship Dinner" of this church on April 11 on the subject, "Family Religion." A visitation evangelism campaign was held in this church recently. Two identical services were held on Easter Sunday. Rev. Donald F. Gaylord is pastor.

ALAMEDA — The Religious Education Committee recently held a dinner in honor of the Sunday School teachers and officers. An accordion band of 8 boys furnished music. Dr. Paul Leibhart of the school department spoke on audio-visual aids. Rev. Ralph Conard is pastor.

SAN CARLOS—A morning "study hour" is being held in the sanctuary every Sunday morning at 9:45, led by the pastor, Rev. Weldon Batty. The theme for the "Study Hour" during Lent is "Jesus as His Contemporaries Saw Him." Parents of Sunday School children are attending this program in large numbers.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST — A new group of business and professional women has been organized in this church, consisting mainly of members who have not as yet affiliated with any other group. Twenty women were present at the first meeting when Mrs. Dorothy Lee was elected chairman. Rev. William E. McCormack is pastor.

FRESNO, JAPANESE—Plans for the development of the church building were discussed recently by the church board. The present building will be divided itno three sections, and the future sanctuary will be built at the corner of Collins and Inyo Streets. This church is showing remarkable progress under Rev. Norio Ozaki.

SUNOL — This little church is showing remarkable progress under the leadership of Rev. Robert B. Whitaker. A new constitution was adopted on March 5, and an election of officers was held. The average attendance is running between 35 and 40 people. A Pilgrim Fellowship group has been organized and is developing with enthusiasm.

NEW MODESTO PARSONAGE

BERKELEY, SOUTH — During Lent, mid-week services were held and the co-pastors led in a discussion on the book, "Teach Us to Pray," by Dr. C. F. Whiston. A new class has been organized on the subject, "Know Your Community," and has been very well attended. Pastors are John Charles Mickle, Jr., Ernest W. Houlding, and James Simpson.

PETALUMA — The "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering in this church brought in $313.40. The Service Club for the women of the church heard a review by Miss Myrtle Brown recently of the book, "My Life and Work," by Dr. Albert Schweitzer. Herbert Gans is the minister.

BERKELEY, FIRST — A leading layman in this church, Mr. Philip McCoombs, gave a Lenten lecture series on Sunday mornings on the general theme, "Can You Be a Success and a Christian?" New members were received at a candlelight communion service on Maundy Thursday. Dr. Vere V. Loper is pastor of this church.

SALIDA—As a result of the visitation evangelism campaign conducted by Rev. Ira Black in this church recently, 16 new members joined the church. The Sunday School has an average attendance of 115 since the first of the year as compared to 85 a year ago. Rev. Orval Clay is pastor.

SANTA CRUZ—The organ in this church is being rebuilt at a cost of $4,500. Monthly forums are held on the first Sunday of each month. Mr. Homer Cornick, superintendent of the Santa Cruz schools, was the speaker on April 12. Rev. Ed Cunningham is the pastor.

BENICIA—A pot-luck supper was held on March 19 for the members of the youth church and their parents. Officers of the senior church were present to welcome their junior partners into office. Mr. Theodore Gustafson, pastor, is working on a spot map of the church membership and making a survey of the community.

SAN LORENZO—Sacrificial effort by a dozen men in this church made possible the completion of the social hall which is now ready for full use. Shelves along the sides of the hall were finished and painted, frosted windows installed along the top of the ceiling, and asphalt tile was laid. Rev. Homer Schwarz is the pastor.

OROVILLE—A visitation evangelism campaign was held from March 27 to 29. New members were invited to join the church on April 6 at an evening communion service. This campaign was organized by the Board of Deacons and Deaconesses. Religious motion pictures were shown at the Lenten evening service on March 12. Rev. Byron Eshelman is pastor of this church.

The "APPEAL" Needs Funds!

On March 1, the Executive Committee of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches decided that an appeal must be taken from the decision in the so-called "Brooklyn" case. In brief, the decision hinged on these circumstances:

1. Judge Steinbrink's decision enjoins the activities of so many phases of our work nationally as to put in legal jeopardy many activities in nowise related to the proposed merger. There is a real doubt that our national boards can carry on their traditional programs without legal hazard so long as the decision stands without modification. Furthermore, the decision is so broad that it brings into some jeopardy all other denominations congregationally organized. Hence, clarification and modification are essential.

2. The Lawyer's Committee appointed by the General Council with representatives of several distinguished firms are in unanimous agreement that appeal should be taken because of evident legal shortcomings in the Judge's decision.

The appeal is a necessary though expensive undertaking. In order to fully recognize any legal implications in the injunction in the Judge's decision, the activity to raise funds for purpose of the appeal are being organized outside any one of our present Church groups. Ronald Bridges has been selected as the national head for the program.

This matter is of importance to each of us—regardless of the degree of our interest for or against the merger. Northern California should raise several thousand dollars. Please send your gift to:

RONALD BRIDGES
Chairman and Treasurer
Funds Committee for Appeal
1554 LeRoy Avenue
Berkeley 8, California

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Mrs. E. B. Kientz, Correspondent

March 15 and 16 were the dates of the Executive Board all-day meeting and the regular meeting of the Federation at the First Church, Oakland. Mrs. Bayard Buckham presided on Wednesday and also Thursday morning. Mrs. Ernest Evans presided at the afternoon session, and Mrs. Gail Cleland took charge of the "Fun and Fellowship" period during the noon recess and luncheon.

Mrs. Buckham expressed her joy at being able to be present at the meetings of the women state presidents and of the Missions Council. The trip itself and the contacts with new people on the train as well as at Cleveland were an inspiration and an education. Throughout the year she will be sharing both with the women of the Federation at their meetings and in the local groups if she is invited to speak to them. The theme for the meetings was "Evangelism," and she rejoiced in the fine caliber of the men and women on the Boards and on the mission fields. The panel showing the work of the American Board was beyond compare. On the panel was Miss Ruth Isabel Seabury, who spent a year in Japan recently, and is to be the "headliner" for the Conference annual meeting in May at Santa Cruz. The day spent at Schauffler College, with the students of many races and creeds, was a fine experience. Miss Chen from China, and helped by the Woman's Gift, expressed her deep appreciation for all that this meant to her in renewing her faith and her hope for the future. She is only one thus helped. Mrs. Buckham spoke of the Displaced Persons family from Oberlin College who told of their gratitude to Church World Service, and again that was only one family of many to be helped.

Mrs. Scott Haymond, member of the Board of Home Missions, said this was her ninth year to go to Mid-Winter Meetings, and the spirit of this one was the best of all. She told of the panorama of all the different types of work done by the Board of Home Missions. Dr. Truman Douglass, Executive Vice-President of the Board, said, "The better we do our job, the better all these will be."

FROM THE SECRETARIES—

Some New, Some Old Friends:

Woman's Gift or Thank Offering: Mrs. J. H. McCartney named the goal as 100% participation by the women of Northern California churches. The new project "In Our Own State" is Ocean View, the old church in San Francisco which is being revitalized and is building on a new location. Sixty local women's groups participated in 1949, and one other has sent in its gift, which will be counted in 1950. If twenty local groups which have not had a part in this wonderful work would resolve to do so this year the Woman's Gift could do even more. The flyer called "We Dedicate This Gift" is free and tells of the projects "Across the Nation" and "Around the World."

Young People's: Mrs. H. D. Kendall told of plans of the Young People's Work Committee for summer camps at Cazadero, with an extra work camp during the Easter vacation.

Christian Home: Mrs. George Lindsay brought three things, all worthy to be starred as to their importance: **Family Week,** May 7-14, should be celebrated in the home, the church, and the community. Special helps available are: pamphlets, "God Works in the Home" (5c), "Why Aren't They Like Us?" (3c), and the film strip with two records for the use of Couples Groups, "The Family on Trial." **Religious Education** materials for the church school and Pilgrim Fellowship include booklets for family use between Sundays. She also recommended two booklets: "The Family Observes Christmas" and "The Family Worships." **Family Camps** at Cazadero. The dates are July 15-22 and August 12-19. Ask the family who has been there.

Foreign Field: Mrs. Lewis Taylor told of the conditions in China and the difficulties of missionary workers under Communist rule. The work is allowed to go on but the missionaries must share their facilities with the Communist leaders to hold classes, too. The Hospital Board is allowed to continue work but must solve their own problems. However, the Communists have paid for soldiers using the hospital.

Mrs. Ralph Edwards, Corresponding Secretary, gave a splendid talk on the possibilities of service for the commissioners. There were eighteen commissioners present and they were so delighted with the message that they asked that mimeographed copies be sent to all commissioners. This has been done.

The third annual **Spring Session** is to be at Cazadero, May 1-3. Mrs. Scott Haymond is chairman of the committee, and plans are progressing. Faculty members have been contacted, and those who are eligible to go will have a wonderful time. Miss Elizabeth McGuffie, associate secretary of Women's Work of the National Fellowship, will be the headliner member on the faculty. She comes from Chicago and will bring suggestions and give a course on "Bible Study."

The **Women's Luncheon** at the Conference annual meeting will be on Saturday, May 27, at the Casa del Rey Hotel in Santa Cruz. It will be a real "party" affair as well as the usual fine day of fellowship and inspiration for Congregational women.

Mrs. Samuel Keck, wife of the superintendent of South Dakota, was the guest speaker. She came as the representative of the Board of Home Missions to bring the story of the plight of the Indian American of this country, especially those in the Dakotas who must be transplanted again because of the building of the Garrison Dam by the government. There are problems for those off the reservations as well as those on. The only training school for leaders at Santee was discontinued in 1933, because the revised Indian Board was to take care of education. Santee was an American Missionary School of our Board of Home Missions. The government schools do not prepare students for college. The only training school is the Cook School in New Mexico under the Presbyterian Board. One of the hopeful things at this time is that eight GI's from the reservation are down at Cook's being trained to go back to South Dakota and be leaders of their own people. The appropriation from our denomination is $7,000 a year for this work. The Indians are naturally dignified and religious, but they live in poverty and degradation which the white people have forced upon them. The Home Missions Council sends out reports twice a year, and Mrs. Keck suggested that the legislative committee of the Conference might work with it for better treatment for the Indians.

ALBERT WATSON SPEAKS . . .

The Centennial Executive Committee was organized a year ago to cooperate with the local committees and pastors of each church so that their membership might contribute to the $100,000 fund of which $30,000 is for Cazadero Camp and $70,000 for "High Potential" new church projects. In addition, our Superintendent secured gifts from individual members particularly interested in the growth of our Church.

It is timely that we should report to you the progress made in raising this fund and the plans for the future.

In all, approximately $60,000 has been subscribed, and a portion of such has been allotted (1) to Cazadero for road, truck, and swimming pool and (2) to new churches being organized at Modesto, Mira Vista (El Cerrito), Oak Park (Sacramento), Forest Hill (San Francisco), and Pleasant Hill (Contra Costa County).

However, the need for the dining hall at Cazadero and financial assistance to establish other churches is so urgent that we believe solicitation of funds should continue through this year 1950 to raise the balance of $40,000.

As the "Centennial" year has passed, we propose to carry on as follows:

1. The Centennial Planning Committee will be renamed the "Special Projects Committee," and will include the members of the present Centennial Executive Committee. These latter will continue to contact all churches which have not yet brought church extension and Cazadero improvement before their membership or have not completed their solicitation, until the balance for these enterprises of $40,000 is subscribed.

2. Pilgrim Fellowship will help to raise funds of $12,000 for the Cazadero dining hall.

3. The Superintendent plans to contact individuals who may give for either or both of the foregoing purposes during the rest of the year.

4. Dr. Buckham will be available to assist in planning and carrying through any local church activity for raising these funds.

Your chairman regrets that the fund of $100,000 was not completed within the Centennial year, but appreciates your individual cooperation and generosity. Churches now receiving aid and many still to be planned, as well as the Cazadero improvements, will be the visible symbol of your contribution. But more important, the sacrifice has bound our membership together in closer ties of fellowship.

—Albert J. Watson

Total of large gifts (over $100)	$28,015.00
Total of Century Club memberships	12,400.00
Total of church offerings and small gifts	20,822.99
Total of Centennial gifts and pledges, to date	$61,237.99
Largest Centennial church offering: Oakland, First	1,643.50
Church contributing the largest amount in large gifts, Century Club, offerings, and small gifts: Sacramento, First	7,732.78
Church having the most thorough Centennial financial canvass: Fresno, Pilgrim Armenian	1,531.65
Church with the largest number of Century Club members: San Mateo	1,200.00
Churches contributing largest single gifts from individuals: (tie for first place) San Mateo and Oakland, First	
Churches not contributing to the Centennial	
Churches not presenting a Centennial program	11

REV. ROWLAND B. DODGE PASSES AWAY

Rev. Rowland B. Dodge, former minister of this Conference and beloved by all who knew him, passed away on March 27. After years of service as a Congregational minister in the Hawaiian Islands, Mr. Dodge came to California, where he served on the staff of the State Conference for a brief period. He then went to the Redwood City Church. It was here that a tragic accident caused him to lose both of his legs. In spite of the hardship imposed upon him by this tragedy, Mr. Dodge was always cheerful and helpful to others. He has been in the insurance business for many years and has been an active member of the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto. Mr. Dodge has taken an interest in the affairs of the Santa Clara Association and the Northern California Congregational Conference. He will be greatly missed by his many friends in the Bay Area.

The funeral service for Mr. Dodge was conducted by Rev. G. Arthur Casaday on March 28 in the Congregational Church of Palo Alto. The sanctuary was well filled with the many devoted friends of Mr. Dodge.

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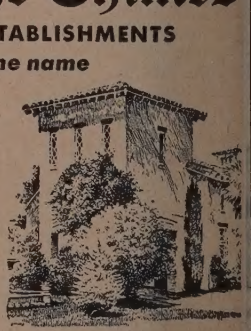

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